

DOCKET SECTION

BEFORE THE
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON DC 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 1997 DOCKET NO. R97-1
FOLLOW-UP INTERROGATORIES OF DAVID B. POPKIN TO THE UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE

David B. Popkin hereby requests the United States Postal Service to answer, fully and completely, the following follow-up interrogatories pursuant to Rules 25 and 26 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Particularly since the Postal Service is encouraging cooperation from the intervenors, I request that similar cooperation in liberally interpreting the requests made by my interrogatories and provide the desired information. To reduce the volume of paper, I have combined related requests into a single numbered interrogatory, however, I am requesting that a specific response be made to each separate question asked. To the extent that a reference is made in the responses to a Library Reference, I would appreciate receiving a copy of the reference since I am located at a distance from Washington, DC. All responses should be complete without reference to any previous Postal Rate Commission dockets.

October 27, 1997

Respectfully submitted,



DAVID B. POPKIN, POST OFFICE BOX 528, ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631-0528

DBP/USPS-86 In your response to DBP/USPS-73, confirm, or explain if you are unable to do so, that the sender's option of waiving the customer's signature also applies to Express Mail.

DBP/USPS-87 In your response to DBP/USPS-77 - subpart g, confirm, or explain if you are unable to do so, that a detached mail unit is an activity which is operated by Postal employees at the addressee's location.

DBP/USPS-88 In your response to DBP/USPS-78 - subpart b, you indicate that the growth of return receipt use indicates that customers regard return receipt service as a very good value. [a] For an article weighing up to 11 ounces, confirm or explain if you are unable to do so, that the present cost for a Certified Mail - Return Receipt letter would be \$2.77 to \$5.07. [b] Confirm, and explain if you are unable to do so, that the great majority of all Certified Mail - Return Receipt letters will weigh in the lower weight levels. [c] Is there a breakdown of the total Certified Mail - Return Receipt letters by weight? [d] If so, provide a copy. [e] What alternatives does a mailer have who desires to obtain the signature of the addressee upon delivery of a letter weighing a few ounces or less? [f] What would the cost be for a mailer who desired to utilize each of the alternatives provided in your response to subpart e? [g] Do you believe that the available alternatives are appropriately priced so as to be considered as reasonable alternatives? [h] If so, explain. [i] Do you believe that the reason for the growth of Return Receipt service over the past ten years may be due in larger part to the increasing need for confirmation of delivery service by the public rather than the quality of the service? [j] If not, explain. [k] What percentage and how many of the Consumer Service Cards and other correspondence received from the public relates to problems associated with Return Receipt service?

DBP/USPS-89 Please clarify your response to DBP/USPS-79, [a] does all automated mail currently receive processing through equipment which will "trap" a Certified Mail article? [b] If not, provide the plan of implementation for installing such equipment at the facilities where it does not exist.

DBP/USPS-90 Please respond to my original interrogatory DBP/USPS-80. Insured mail which can have an insurance value of \$5,000 refers to insured mail and not to registered mail as offered by the witness.

DBP/USPS-91 In your response to DBP/USPS-81 subpart b, your response does not provide the logic for charging more for a package which weighs less than another

similar package. Assume that the mailer is not interested in obtaining the better service that Priority Mail would provide. Please respond to the original subpart.

DBP/USPS-92 In your response to DBP/USPS-29, you indicate that the checking would go beyond what's required by POM Section 822.112. Which employee, delivering employee or clearing clerk or other employee, would check the items referred to in subparts c, g, and h?

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the rules of practice.


David B. Popkin October 27, 1997
